

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-04 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-06 DRC-01 /077 W

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R 181706Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7647

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 7054 B) EC BRUSSELS 7004

1. SUMMARY: THE EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
MEETING OCTOBER 15 WAS BRIEFED ON THE STATUS OF THE
EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS. THE COUNCIL URGED THE COMMISSION
AND THE COREPER (COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES)
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TO EXPEDITE THE FINAL STAGES OF NEGOTIATION IN ORDER

TO MEET THE COMMUNITY'S PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 15 FOR SIGNATURE OF A NEW AGREEMENT REPLACING THE OLD YAOUNDE CONVENTION.

2. AT ITS MEETING OF OCTOBER 15 THE EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS TOOK UP THE SUBJECT OF THE EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS NOW IN PROGRESS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THIS SUBJECT WAS BRIEF AND TOOK PLACE IN A RESTRICTED SESSION DEALING WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS. THE COUNCIL ADOPTED, UNDER ROUTINE PROCEDURE, SUPPLEMENTARY MANDATES COVERING INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT AND THE STABILIZATION OF EXPORT EARNINGS. THESE MANDATES ARE PROCEDURAL IN CHARACTER, HOWEVER, AND MERELY SET FORTH THE COUNCIL'S DESIRE THAT THE COMMISSION, WORKING WITH THE COREPER, EXPEDITE THE TALKS IN ORDER TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT READY FOR SIGNATURE IN DECEMBER.

3. INSTITUTIONS: COMMISSION OFFICIALS DESCRIBE THE MANDATE CONCERNING INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THE ACP AGREEMENT AS FAIRLY BROAD BUT GEARED TO PRACTICAL PROBLEMS LIKELY TO ARISE UNDER THE NEW ASSOCIATION. REPORTEDLY THE EC HAS IN MIND TWO INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS--A DECISION-MAKING AND MANAGEMENT BODY AND A PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTION. THE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTION WOULD HAVE A BROAD MANDATE AND COULD DISCUSS ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. IT WOULD MEET AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL (COUNCIL AND COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE EC SIDE, ONE MEMBER FOR EACH ACP), AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL (TO PREPARE FOR MINISTERIAL MEETINGS AND EXERCISE THOSE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT) AND AT THE LEVEL OF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS. DETAILS CONCERNING THE PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTION REMAIN TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ACP'S AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

4. STABILIZATION SCHEME: THE SUPPLEMENTARY MANDATE ON THE STABILIZATION SCHEME PROVIDES THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COREPER TAKE ANY NECESSARY DECISIONS CONCERNING OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE CURRENT EC/ACP TALKS ON THE SCHEME.

5. THE COUNCIL EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHES TO A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF THE TALKS NOW IN PROGRESS AND INSTRUCTED THE COMMISSION AND COREPER TO TAKE A BROAD POLITICAL

VIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND

NOT DWELL ON TECHNICAL ISSUES LIKELY TO DELAY
CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

6. IN STRESSING THEIR DETERMINATION TO CONCLUDE THE
CURRENT ROUND OF TALKS AS SOON AS PLSSIBLE THE
COUNCIL AGREED THAT SAUVAGNARGUES CONTACT THE
CURRENT ACP CHAIRMAN (SENEGAL) WITH A VIEW TO
HOLDING A FINAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS
BEFORE THE END OF NOVEMBER, FOLLOWED BY SIGNATURE
OF AN AGREEMENT IN DECEMBER. GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, EXPORT CONTROLS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ECBRU08136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-0105
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741036/aaaabatk.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) EC BRUSSELS 7054 B) EC BRUSSELS 7, 004
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <01 AUG 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005